

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/600,949

Examiner

Raleigh Chiu

Applicant(s)

FAILLA ET AL.

Art Unit

3711

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 19 August 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 8-10.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 19 August 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☒ Other Listing of Claims.

Raleigh Chiu
Primary Examiner
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CLAIMS

Claims 1-7 (cancelled).

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The shuffle putter of claim 7,~~ A shuffle putter comprising a shaft coupled to a club head, said shaft extending substantially perpendicularly to said club head from above a central portion of said club head between a toe and a heel of said club head, said club head comprising a nonspecific striking surface disposed between said toe and said heel,

wherein said club head comprises a cylinder,

further comprising two runners, wherein each runner is coupled to an opposing end of said cylinder, and

wherein each said runner is coupled to an opposing end of said cylinder at a position off-center from a vertex of said runner.

9. (Original) The shuffle putter of claim 8, further comprising an adjustable bolt for securing said adjustable bolt permitting a selective rotation of axis of said cylinder.

10. (Original) The shuffle putter of claim 9, further comprising a ratchet mechanism for ratcheting said runners in a selectably rotated position about said longitudinal axis of said cylinder.

11. (Withdrawn) A shuffle putting method comprising the steps of:

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aligning a central portion of a non-specific striking surface of a club head with both a golf ball and a hole;
resting said club head on turf supporting said golf ball;
standing aside club head; and,
striking said golf ball with said club head at said central portion of said club head using a shuffleboard-style stroke.

12. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 11, wherein said resting step comprises the step of resting runners affixed to ends of said club head on said turf supporting said golf ball.

13. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 11, wherein said striking step comprises the step of:

lowering a shaft coupled to said club head to an acute angle with respect to said turf supporting said golf ball;
pulling said shaft backwards away from said golf ball;
moving said shaft forwards toward said golf ball while maintaining said acute angle; and,

striking said golf ball with said club head.

14. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 11, wherein said striking step comprises the step of maintaining contact between said runners and said turf while striking said golf ball with said club head.

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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. The claims listed above will replace all prior claims in the application. The claim amendments filed 19 August 2004 did not comply with 37 CFR 1.121. Specifically, the text of cancelled claims must not be presented; the text of all pending claims, including withdrawn claims, must be submitted each time any claim is amended.

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 11-14, non-elected without traverse, have been cancelled.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Raleigh Chiu whose telephone number is (703) 308-2247. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

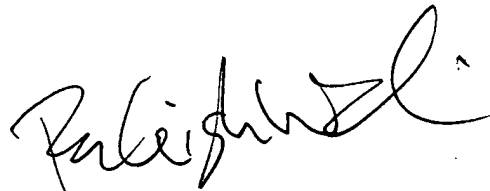
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Greg Vidovich, can be reached on (703) 308-1513.

The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1148.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Raleigh W. Chiu', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Raleigh W. Chiu
Primary Examiner
Technology Center 3700

RWC:dei:feif

29 September 2004